Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, West Virginia American Water was the first organization in the state to celebrate Earth Week in West Virginia; and

Whereas, during Earth Week, West Virginia American Water boosts community involvement and volunteerism, promotes paperless billing, educates West Virginians on the importance of source water protection and watershed health and safety, and communicates the benefits of picking up litter along roadways and waterways; and

Whereas, we can all contribute to protecting and preserving the planet we share through individual acts such as using reusable bags and reducing plastic waste; and

Whereas, all people of this Earth, from all walks of life, have a right to a healthy environment and plastic pollution has been associated with several health issues affecting the general population; and

Whereas, children, the youth, and the most vulnerable are disproportionately affected by plastic pollution; and

Whereas, it is more important than ever to cooperate to find solutions for the plastic waste that is concentrating in several enormous patches in the ocean and that threatens the human food chain; and

Whereas, it is essential to involve the community in the design and implementation of solutions for pressing environmental issues such as plastic pollution; and

Whereas, ending plastic pollution is crucial to the survival of this planet and its inhabitants; and

Whereas, Earth Week is an annual reminder of the constant need for environmental activism, stewardship commitments, and sustainability efforts.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *April 17-21 2023* as:

Earth Week

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-second day of March, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixtieth year of the State.

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Jim Justice

By the Governor:

Mac Warner
Secretary of State